

INFORMATION REPORT

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CHINA

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SUBJECT: The Communist Purge in Kwangtung

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1. Before the purge was stepped up in connection with the Land Reform program, approximately 3,000 persons had been killed in each hsien in Kwangtung, making a total of 300,000 persons killed in the province. During May 1951 100,000 more persons were killed in the purge out of a total population of a little over 30,000,000.

2. Fangsh'eng () hsien, before the purge, had a population of 150,000, which was predominantly women. The excess of women over men was caused partially by the habits of men from this area going overseas to make their fortune or joining the army. The male population was also diminished by the recruitment of 30,000 men for the defense of Hainan by General CH'EN Chi-t'ang, who is a native of this hsien. Many of the men he recruited were transported to Taiwan. Only 35,000 male adults remained in the hsien when the Communists gained control, and approximately 30,000 of them have been killed in the purge.

3. In Tsengch'eng () hsien over 20,000 persons have been executed in the purge. The victims include many teachers and doctors. In fact, almost a clean sweep has been made of the literate class and potential leaders, except for Communist Party members. Land owners, rich farmers, shop keepers, and managers and cashiers in shops have been purged.

4. Paichiao village () of Chungshan hsien had a population of about 3,000 before the Communists came to power. Virtually every grown man able to bear arms in the village has been killed in the purge.

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